When I was but your sister; I you brothers. When you were so indeed[a].

CYM. Did you e'er meet ?

ART. Ay, my good lord.

GUI. And at first meeting lov'd ;

Continued so, until we thought he died.

COR. By the queen's dram she swallow'd.

CYM. O rare instinct!

When shall I hear all through ? This fierce abridgement [3]

Hath to it circumstantial branches, which Distinction should be rich in [4].—

Where ? how liv'd you ?

And when came you to serve our Roman captive ? How parted with your brothers ? how first met them ?

Why fled you from the court ? and whither[5] ? These, And your three motives to the battle [6], with

[2] When YOU were so indeed.] The folio gives : " When *we* were so indeed."
If this be right we must read : " *Imo.* I, you brothers.
" *Arv.* When we were so, indeed." JOHNSON.
The emendation which has been adopted, was made by Mr. Howe. I am not sure that it is necessary. Shakspeare in his licentious manner might have meant,—" when we did really stand in the relation of brother and sister to each other.*' MALONE.

3 FIERCE abridgement —] *Fierce* is *vehement, rapid.* JOHNSON.
So, in Timon of Athens :
" O, *t|z fierce* wretchedness that glory brings !" " - STEEVENS.
So also in Love's Labour Lost, vol. iv. p. 461.
" With all *the farce* endeavour of your wit." MALONE.

4 —which Distinction should be rich in.] i. e. which ought to be rendered distinct by a liberal amplitude of narrative. STEEVENS.

^ —and WHITHER?] Old *copy-—whether.* The correction was made by Mr. Theobald, who likewise reformed the pointing. MALONE.

[6] And your three MOTIVES to the battle,] That is, though